

Message Text

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ACTION PRS-01

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 SAM-01 ISO-00 SS-15 CCO-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

OC-05 CPR-01 SY-05 USSS-00 NSC-05 A-01 /043 W

----- 047934

O R 221051Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA

TO USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

SECSTATE WASHDC 2184

UNCLAS ACCRA 2988

USIAC

USIS FOR FENHAGEN

STATE FOR S/PRS FUNSETH

E.O. 11652:N/A

SUBJ: PRESS ARRANGEMENTS FOR SECRETARY'S VISIT

REF: MONROVIA 2787

1. ALL CORRESPONDENTS TRAVELING WITH PARTY WILL BE HOUSED IN HOTEL CONTINENTAL WITH REST OF PARTY. PRESS ROOM ON GROUND FLOOR SAME HOTEL CONSISTS TWO CONNECTING DOUBLES, 11.5 BY 16 FEET.

2. COMMUNICATIONS SITUATION GREATLY IMPROVED SINCE FENHAGEN VISIT REFTEL. TWO TELEXES WILL BE INSTALLED IN PRESS ROOM AND MANNED BY OPERATORS 24 HOURS. ALL RECOGNIZED INTERNATIONAL CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED. TWO TELEPHONE LINES HAVE BEEN ACQUIRED FOR EXCLUSIVE PRESS USE FROM 9 P.M. TWENTY-NINTH (WHEN INTERNATIONAL TELEPHONE SERVICE NORMALLY SHUTS DOWN IN GHANA) TO 2. A.M. THIRTIETH.

FOLLOWING FENGHAGEN RECOMMENDATION (SEE REFTEL) HAVE AGREED TO PAY APPROXIMATELY DOLLARS 2,500 T LEASE THE TWO LINES TO LONDON FOR THAT PERIOD. UNDERSTAND LONDNN WILL CONNECT CALLS TO LONDON TOLL, WHICH IN TURN WILL CONNECT WITH FTS IN U.S.

ANY PRESS TELEPHONE CALLS EARLIER TWENTY-NINTH WILL BE GIVEN

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PRIORITY STATUS BY GHANA P&T AND CAN BE MADE FROM HOTEL

TELEPHONES (AND CHARGED TO CORRESPONDENTS' HOTEL BILLS) BUT NO EXCLUSIVE LINE AVAILABLE, AND MUST BE BOOKED BY NORMAL PROCEDURES. EVEN THOUGH PRIORITY WILL BE ACCORDED, SYSTEM NORMALLY EXTREMELY CROWDED AND NO ASSURANCE CAN BE GIVEN THAT CALLS WILL GO THROUGH WITHOUT SIGNIFICANT WAITS. QUALITY OF TELEPHONE COMMUNICATION ALSO UNCERTAIN, BUT AS THIS PLUS OTHER REQUIREMENT'S SECRETARY'S PARTY ABSORBING OVER TWO-THIRDS OF GHANA'S ENTIRE EXTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS NO CHANGES OR BACKUP POSSIBLE. WILL PROVIDE COURIER SERVICE TO THOSE FEW INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS GOING DURING PERIOD FOR DISPATCH ANY TV FILM.

3. AP TICKER WILL BE INSTALLED PRESS ROOM AND WILL BE USED TO PROVIDE SECRETARY AND STAFF MEDIA REPORTS AS WELL AS FOR PRESS REFERENCE. QUALITY RECEPTION MAY BE MEDIOCRE AS THAT HAS BEEN EXPERIENCE HERE.

4. IF ANY INTERNATIONAL PRESS NOT WITH SECRETARY'S PARTY PLAN COVER ACCRA STOP ESSENTIAL THEIR PLANS BE COMMUNICATED ASAP AS LOGISTIC ALL SORTS HERE EXTREMELY LIMITED. BACHE

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